

20 March 1953

MEMORANDUM

TO: SR/CPI

FROM: Chief, SR/2

SUBJECT: Utilization of Germans for Commando-type Missions

1. The undersigned discussed with Mr. Critchfield, Chief of POB, the feasibility of utilizing German nationals on reconnaissance missions into Northwest USSR and the Far East. Mr. Critchfield stated that KUBARK should realize that any recruitment of German nationals in Germany should most certainly come to the attention of ZIPPER. The further consideration in such action is the fact that the Bonn Government has recently passed a law making it a criminal act for a German national to accept an espionage mission on behalf of a foreign power. In spite of the above, however, Mr. Critchfield feels that the recruitment of such individuals is perfectly feasible if KUBARK has no objections to ZIPPER's knowing the names of the individuals contacted.

2. The undersigned feels that it would be a major KUBARK asset to have at least two or three two-man commando teams to be utilized for the coverage of priority intelligence targets in the Northwest USSR and Far East. Such individuals could be recruited on a two-year contract basis and taken out of Germany entirely. They would be individuals who have no deep family ties and who, perhaps, due to their former political connections may have difficulty in finding employment and adjusting themselves in present day Germany. Upon recruitment these individuals should be taken out of Germany, trained in the U.S., and utilized on black missions wherever the greatest need may be. On the completion of such missions they should be returned to the U.S. for debriefing and preparation for the next mission. Eventually such individuals should be guaranteed our assistance in resettlement either in South America or the U.S.

3. SR/2 proposes to informally feel out [ ] on the feasibility of using German nationals on missions originating in Norway. However, prior to making such a request it is desirable that the SR/PI Staff obtain an opinion from Chief/PI concerning KUBARK policy in utilizing German nationals for operations into the USSR.

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